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TECHNICAL MEETING ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR AND THE
INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
Geneva, 20-22 July 1994
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

EVALUATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR

Interim report of the Coordinator of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People

Note by the secretariat

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Introduction

1. The present interim report on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People is prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/128 of 17 December 1991. In that resolution the General Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to convene a meeting of participants in the programmes and projects of the Year, after the Year, to assess what conclusions could be drawn from the activities. The final report on the International Year will be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

I. THE PROCLAMATION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

2. The proposal to proclaim an international year of the world's indigenous people was made by the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. José R. Martínez Cobo, in his "Study of the Problem of Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1986/7/Add.4, para. 633).

3. The Commission on Human Rights recalled the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur in its resolution 1988/58, in which it recommended to the Economic and Social Council to recommend that the General Assembly should, when appropriate, proclaim an international year of the world's indigenous populations.

4. The Sub-Commission, at its forty-first session, adopted resolution 1989/36 entitled "International year for indigenous rights" and requested two of its members, Mr. Asbjorn Eide and Ms. Christy Mbonu, to prepare a working paper on possible activities for such a year.

5. In its decision 1990/113, the Commission on Human Rights recommended that the Economic and Social Council recommend that the General Assembly proclaim an international year for the world's indigenous people, in 1993 or another appropriate year.

6. Subsequently, in its decision 1990/248, the Economic and Social Council, having taken note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1990/113, decided to recommend that the General Assembly proclaim an international year for the world's indigenous people in 1993. The General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, in its resolution 45/164, then proclaimed the International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

7. In its resolution 1990/29 the Sub-Commission expressed its appreciation to Mr. Eide and Ms. Mbonu for their paper (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/41). It also requested them to submit a second working paper to the Sub-Commission at its forty-third session. The Commission on Human Rights, in its resolutions 1991/57 and 1992/45, supported the development of activities for the Year, and encouraged Governments and others to contribute to the success of the Year.

8. The Sub-Commission adopted resolution 1991/33 at its forty-third session, thanking Mr. Eide and Ms. Mbonu for their second working paper (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/39), detailing possible activities for the Year.

9. The programme of activities for the Year, adopted by the General Assembly as an annex to resolution 46/128, drew upon these two working papers. In the second of the papers the Special Rapporteurs recommended that representatives of indigenous peoples be involved at all stages of the planning, implementation and evaluation of the Year. They also recommended that the General Assembly designate the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights as the coordinator of the Year, and that a small organizational secretariat be established within the Centre for Human Rights.

10. Also in resolution 46/128, the General Assembly designated the then Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights as Coordinator of the Year, assigned responsibility for implementing the activities of the Year to the Centre for Human Rights in conjunction with the International Labour Organisation, and adopted the theme "Indigenous people - a new partnership".

11. In its resolution 47/75, the General Assembly reaffirmed its proclamation of the Year.

12. The first working paper prepared by Mr. Eide and Ms. Mbonu provided a detailed analysis of the background to international years and the expectations of the United Nations of these celebrations and noted that the purpose most frequently advanced to support United Nations years had been publicity for a cause and to mobilize international public opinion. Thus, in this Year, it would be essential to raise public awareness of indigenous cultures and of the situation of indigenous peoples through special international and national activities. The provision of information to indigenous people about international human rights standards was also a priority.

13. The goal of achieving full participation in national society had been another goal which was particularly relevant to a year devoted to the recognition of indigenous peoples.

14. The objectives of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People are stated in General Assembly resolution 45/164 in which the Assembly, bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations set forth in the Charter is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, proclaimed 1993 as International Year for the World's Indigenous People, "with a view to strengthening international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous communities in areas such as human rights, the environment, development, education and health".

15. A major objective of the Year was implicit in the theme adopted by the General Assembly for the Year, "Indigenous people - a new partnership", which encouraged States and the international community to build new relationships with indigenous peoples.

16. It was emphasized that at all levels, these objectives were to be achieved through ensuring the participation of indigenous people in the planning, implementation and evaluation of all projects proposed for the Year.

II. THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

17. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/128, the first session of the Technical Meeting to prepare for the Year was held in Geneva from 9-11 March 1992 (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM/8) and was reconvened from 3-5 August 1992.

18. A one-day inter-agency meeting was held in August 1992 at which some of the principal agencies which are concerned with indigenous peoples, including the Department of Public Information (DPI), the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank, were represented.

19. A number of organizational matters were discussed including the need to establish focal points in each agency, to involve indigenous people in programme planning, and to prepare clear information for indigenous people about the agencies' programmes.

20. Another important part of the preparations for the year was the appointment of a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum.

A. The Coordinator, the secretariat and the staffing

21. When the Year was proclaimed, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights was Mr. Jan Martensen, and he was appointed the Coordinator for the Year. At the end of his term of office Mr. Martensen was succeeded by Mr. Antoine Blanca, who was the Coordinator from February 1992 until March 1993 during the planning stages of the Year.

22. Mr. Ibrahima Fall inherited the responsibility as Coordinator of the International Year in March 1993 when he was appointed Director of the Centre for Human Rights and, later, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights.

23. In accordance with General Assembly rules, no funds are available from the regular budget for international years. As soon as the Centre was designated the coordinating body for the Year, it became a priority to address the question of human and financial resources.

24. The secretariat for the International Year was based in Geneva, within the Centre for Human Rights. At the time of the proclamation of the Year, there was only one Professional staff post, the secretary to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, which was assigned to manage the indigenous peoples' mandate, with limited access to secretarial assistance.

25. At the beginning of 1992, the planning year for the celebration, a first priority was to obtain staff. As a result of the recommendation contained in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 46/128 the Centre for Human Rights began discussions with Governments on the possibility of seconding indigenous persons as staff members to assist the Coordinator.

26. The Governments of Australia, Denmark and Norway supported the secondment of indigenous administrators to the secretariat for the Year, located in Geneva, for periods of 18, 12 and 9 months respectively. The Australian consultant's contract was extended for a further six months until 30 June 1994, to assist in compiling the evaluation report on the Year and with the planning for the Decade.

27. During the planning period leading up to the commencement of the Year, and for the first months of 1993, the Centre for Human Rights was, as a whole, severely under-resourced, and office accommodation was restricted. In this initial period when the secretariat for the Year was being established this lack of physical resources limited the scope of the activities that could be undertaken by the secretariat. Fortunately, the three Governments which had provided staffing loaned or donated computers and printers and additional office space became available during 1993. The Coordinator wishes to thank these Governments for their generous contributions to the work of the Year.

28. The International Labour Organisation also employed an indigenous consultant on a short-term contract to work on matters affecting indigenous peoples and regular consultations were held with the staff of the Centre.

29. The placement of qualified interns provided additional staffing resources, from time to time on a short-term basis. The assistance contributed by interns is helpful, particularly when the secretariat is servicing meetings and has responsibility for special research projects. The Coordinator was grateful for the dedicated and able assistance which was provided to the secretariat by a number of interns during the year.

30. During the Year, it was concluded that the servicing of the mandates and the programme activities requires a minimum of three Professional officers and secretarial assistance on a full-time basis, in order to operate effectively.

31. The Coordinator has expressed an interest in increasing the staffing of this area in accordance with the spirit of the resolution proclaiming the Decade which acknowledges the need for additional staffing to deal with the tasks associated with the Decade.

B. The International Labour Organisation

32. The General Assembly, in its resolution 46/128, assigned the functional duties associated with the administration of the Year to the Centre for Human Rights in conjunction with the International Labour Organisation. Subsequently, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation approved its active participation in the Year.

33. ILO is the only organization in the United Nations system which has adopted specific standards covering indigenous and tribal peoples. It adopted

the Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention (No. 107) in 1957 and, in 1989, following the revision of that Convention, the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (No. 169). ILO saw the concept of participatory partnership as a natural feature of its relationship with indigenous peoples in the coordination of activities for the Year.

34. ILO, assisted by the Centre for Human Rights and the New York-based Non-Governmental Organizations Committee for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, was instrumental in arranging a consultation between representatives of indigenous peoples and international development, human rights and other agencies at United Nations Headquarters on 11 December 1992 in conjunction with the ceremonies launching the Year.

35. ILO attended and was an active participant in all three sessions of the Technical Meeting on the International Year. At the first session of the Technical Meeting it provided a written report on its activities, stressing that participation of the affected peoples was a basic principle of the organization, particularly with respect to its work with indigenous and tribal peoples (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM/3).

36. At all sessions of the Technical Meeting, there was considerable discussion on how best to disseminate information on ILO Convention No. 169. Although the organization actively promotes it at the regional and subregional levels, there was a problem of inadequate resources. It was felt that more promotion needs to be done, particularly at the national level.

37. In addition, ILO published six posters prepared by indigenous designers and a handbook on the subject of technical cooperation assistance was published in collaboration with the World Bank.

III. THE OPENING

38. It had been decided that the General Assembly would conduct the opening ceremonies for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People at its forty-seventh session in 1992. The event took place on 10 December, which is International Human Rights Day.

39. The Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, which had been established in New York, originally suggested that the Secretary-General should invite indigenous leaders to address the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly as part of the opening ceremonies. The General Assembly agreed that indigenous peoples would be given this opportunity.

40. Several other events took place around the official inauguration ceremonies, including a cultural evening and reception, a press conference on 9 December and an inter-agency consultation with indigenous peoples on 11 December.

A. The inauguration ceremonies in the General Assembly

41. The opening ceremonies were in two parts. The President of the Assembly introduced the debate at the formal plenary meeting, under agenda item 97:

Human rights. Because the participation of indigenous representatives at the plenary meeting was not possible under the rules of procedure, the meeting was suspended after the formal proceedings. The second part of the meeting was opened by the Coordinator for the Year, Mr. Antoine Blanca.

Statements in the plenary meeting

42. The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Stoyan Ganev, of Bulgaria, opened the plenary meeting. He asked that the United Nations take concrete action during the Year and beyond to bring the full benefits of peace, human rights and development to the world's indigenous people.

43. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, then spoke of the commitment of the United Nations system to the cause of indigenous people and called upon Member States to contribute generously to the Voluntary Fund which he had opened for the Year. He spoke of the importance of the eventual adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people and announced the appointment of Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum as the Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year.

44. Following these presentations the representative of Canada introduced a draft resolution on the Year (resolution 47/75 of 14 December 1992) and commented upon the importance of the theme of the Year, "Indigenous people - a new partnership". The representative noted that there was now worldwide recognition of indigenous interests.

45. On 10 December 1992, statements were made by the Governments of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Fiji, New Zealand, Nicaragua and Norway (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden). Due to time constraints, the debate under agenda item 97 was suspended for the day, and the statements were made by Bangladesh, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, the Russian Federation, the United States of America and Vanuatu when the debate resumed on 14 December 1992. The representative spoke of their Government's support for the International Year and of their hopes to see an action-oriented programme aimed at solving the problems faced by indigenous people established. Governments agreed that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples was an important goal for the Year, whilst the issues of land and the environment were germane to any consideration of the rights of indigenous people.

46. The representatives spoke of the situations in their own countries, and the meeting learned of the many positive developments that were already taking place throughout the world. Governments indicated that they respected the diversity of cultures and looked forward to developing new partnerships in mutual respect and understanding with the indigenous peoples with whom they shared their territories. It was noted that the situations of indigenous peoples vary from country to country, so different solutions are required.

47. Governments noted the value of ILO Convention No. 169 to indigenous people, and expressed the hope that the Working Group on Indigenous Populations would complete its drafting of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples at its eleventh session to be held in 1993, during the

International Year. In particular, the Chairperson of the Working Group, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, was warmly congratulated for her dedication to the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples.

Statements by the Coordinator of the Year and by the Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations

48. Mr. Antoine Blanca, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights and the Coordinator of the International Year, in opening the informal meeting, believed that a new chapter was beginning in the relationships between indigenous people and the community of nations and that human rights mechanisms must be applied to protect indigenous peoples.

49. Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes looked forward to completing the draft of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples during 1993 and outlined her four-point "Agenda for indigenous peoples" to guide the United Nations during 1993 and beyond. This agenda called for the inclusion of the special needs and perspectives of indigenous peoples in the Secretary-General's "Agenda for development"; for the establishment of an inter-agency research programme to provide data to enable the United Nations to monitor the conditions in which indigenous peoples live; for the adoption, dissemination and implementation of the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples; and for the establishment of a representative body of indigenous peoples, to provide advice to the United Nations system.

Statements by indigenous representatives

50. Twenty indigenous speakers made statements about the situations of indigenous peoples and their relationship with the world. These speakers came from all regions of the world, to ensure geographical balance and as wide a representation of indigenous people as possible.

51. Chief Oren Lyons (Haudenosaunee), Faithkeeper of the Onondaga Nation, on behalf of the indigenous nations and peoples of Great Turtle Island, North America, welcomed the delegates and thanked the General Assembly for proclaiming the Year, and spoke of the hope and inspiration that the proclamation had brought to the indigenous peoples of the world.

52. There was one speaker from the African region, Mr. Moringe L. Parkipuny of the Korongoro Integrated Peoples Oriented to Conservation, based in the United Republic of Tanzania. The five speakers from the Asian-Pacific region were the Venerable Bimal Mahathero Bhikkhu, from the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Mrs. Lois O'Donoghue, the Chairperson of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission of Australia, Mr. Giichi Nomura of the Ainu Association of Hokkaido, Mr. Tamati Reedy of the National Maori Congress of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Mr. Anderson Mutang Urud of the Sarawak Indigenous Peoples' Alliance.

53. The Canadian region was represented by Mr. Ovide Mercredi, the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, and Mrs. Mary Simon spoke on behalf of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference of Canada, the Grand Council of the Crees of Quebec, the Metis National Council of Canada, the Native Council of Canada Congress of Aboriginal Peoples and the International Organisation of Indigenous Resource Development.

54. The speaker from the Eastern European region was Mrs. Evdokia Gaer, the Secretary-General of the International League of Indigenous Nations and Ethnic Groups of the Russian Federation. Mr. Lars Emil Johansen, Premier of the Greenland Home-rule Government and Ms. Irja Seurujarvi-Kari from Finland, Chairperson of the Nordic Sami Council, represented the European region.

55. The speakers from the Latin American region were Mr. Marcial Arias García, President of the United Kunas of Nabguana of Panama, Mr. José Santos Millao, First Director of the National Organization of the Mapuche People of Chile, Mrs. Noeli Pocaterra from Venezuela, a member of the World Council of the Indigenous Peoples Women's Commission, and Mr. Davi Yanomami, of the Yanomami people of the Amazon.

56. Mr. Poka Laenui, President of the Pacific Asia Council of Indigenous Peoples, Mr. William Means, Chief Executive Officer, International Indian Treaty Council and Mr. Donald Rojas, President, World Council for Indigenous Peoples spoke on indigenous concerns from an international perspective.

57. The speakers welcomed the proclamation of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, but regretted that violence and acts of genocide are still being committed against indigenous peoples. They called upon the international community to promote non-violence and guarantee peace and security for indigenous peoples and to accord a high priority to indigenous concerns.

58. The speakers emphasized the importance of participation and the need for some form of permanent forum or permanent advisory body for indigenous peoples within the United Nations system. Some speakers suggested the appointment of a High Commissioner for Indigenous Peoples. They asked the world to listen to their voices and recognize their right to exist as distinct peoples with their right to self-determination.

59. Environmental concerns were high on the list of issues addressed and many speakers pointed out the link between human rights and sustainable development. The protection of indigenous peoples was closely linked to the protection of the environment, particularly in regions of tropical forests.

60. Mr. Thomas Banyacya, a Traditional Elder of the Hopi people of North America, was the last speaker. He delivered a message that had been handed down to him from ancient prophecies. He explained that humans have risen and fallen several times upon the planet, and have again reached the stage where they are ignoring the natural laws to the detriment of the earth and mankind. He called upon the leaders of the world's nations to choose a path leading to spiritual renewal and protection of the earth and peace. The ceremony concluded with the end of the Hopi Elder's message.

61. The Department of Public Information is producing an illustrated book to commemorate the International Year including excerpts from these speeches. Entitled "**Seeds of a New Partnership**", it will be published in English and Spanish. The Department also produced a video, "**Indigenous Voices at the United Nations**", which depicts the participation of indigenous people at the launching of the Year in the General Assembly and is available on request from the DPI.

B. Other activities

62. A cultural event, which took place in the Economic and Social Council Chamber, was organized by DPI and co-sponsored by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Development Fund for Women. Other contributors included the Governments of Australia, Canada, Greenland, Norway and the Philippines. Seven hundred indigenous leaders, and representatives of Member States, indigenous communities, non-governmental organizations and media, as well as personalities from the academic and art worlds attended the cultural event and the reception following. The event received worldwide media coverage.

63. The event featured all indigenous performers, which were Spiderwoman Theatre, Sacred Drum: the Silver Cloud Singers and the Thunderbird Dance Company from the United States of America; Yothu Yindi a rock band from Australia; Mari Boine from Norway; the Earth Savers from the Philippines; Inca Son with performers from Peru and Ecuador; and Egon Sikevat from Greenland. The mistress of ceremonies was Buffy Sainte-Marie, an indigenous singer from Canada.

64. An American woman artist, Marisol, offered to donate proceeds from the sale of limited edition prints to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. The work of art by this artist, a portrait of an Indian warrior, from which the limited editions would be prepared, was displayed at the reception.

65. A meeting between indigenous organizations, non-governmental organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system was held on 11 December 1992. ILO arranged the meeting assisted by the Centre for Human Rights in cooperation with the Non-Governmental Organisations Committee on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. It was co-chaired by Ian Chambers of ILO, Grace Smith of the Dine'h Nation and Oren Lyons of the Haudenosaunee-Onondaga Nation.

66. The following agencies, programmes and institutions were represented: the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Department of Public Information, the United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Latin American and Caribbean Indigenous Development Fund. The following agencies were invited, but were unable to attend: the World Health Organization, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Environment Programme, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

67. The discussion centred around access to programmes, training and capacity building, the problem of ignorance of the indigenous situation and development

financing. This meeting was a valuable contribution to the planning for the Year as it gave indigenous peoples direct access to some of the international agencies responsible for some of the development programmes affecting them. The report of the meeting is available in document E/CN.4/1993/AC.4/TM.3/1.

68. The Native American Council of New York and the Non-Governmental Organisations Committee on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People were extremely active in monitoring the activities of the United Nations system during the week 7-12 December 1992, and coordinated a number of meetings and programmes specifically for indigenous peoples. During the week, the indigenous delegates drafted an eight-point "Statement of Indigenous Nations, Peoples and Organizations" which was presented to the United Nations.

IV. THE PROGRAMME UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT

69. Prior to the commencement of the International Year, the mandates concerning indigenous peoples entrusted to the Centre for Human Rights already constituted a substantial programme with major responsibilities involving a considerable workload. Amongst these responsibilities were the servicing of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP), including work associated with the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and the organization of expert meetings on issues of special interest to indigenous peoples and Governments. The servicing of meetings includes the preparation of all the associated documentation and liaison with the conference and translation services. The secretariat also provides support for the Special Rapporteurs on the studies on intellectual and cultural property, and on treaties.

70. The secretary of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations is normally responsible for the administration of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. Although, during 1993, additional assistance with this task was provided by a staff member outside this mandate, the secretary was ultimately responsible for this programme.

71. During the International Year, there was a marked increase in the workload associated with the indigenous mandates and the tasks associated with all matters of concern to indigenous peoples could not be separated from those undertaken by the secretariat for the International Year. These issues were both enhanced and intensified through the increased focus brought to bear upon them during the Year. For example, there was a substantial increase in the volume of correspondence received each week during the Year, as well as telephone enquiries.

72. The secretariat, in consultation with the Centre for Human Rights Liaison Office in New York, assisted with the management of the arrangements for the opening ceremonies, including the negotiations concerning the selection of speakers for the ceremony. Also, during the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the members of the secretariat were required to be in attendance when the indigenous agenda items were under discussion, and were responsible for the work associated with these agenda items.

73. A practical programme of activities was developed by the Coordinator in consultation with the secretariat and the indigenous staff. These staff members were also available to advise other sectors of the United Nations on matters relating to the International Year. The aim of the activities and projects that were undertaken by the secretariat was to improve indigenous participation in United Nations activities, improve communications between the United Nations and indigenous peoples and bring some long-term benefits to them. A number of these activities were also aimed at the promotion of awareness among the general public about the situation of indigenous peoples. Another goal was to provide information to indigenous peoples about international human rights standards and the United Nations system in general.

74. A world calendar of events was prepared with the assistance of the Department of Public Information. It provided details of some 150 events in the following countries and territories: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greenland, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Peru, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America. Because of the great number of events, the calendar could not include details of all the activities that took place throughout the world, but it provided an indication of the extent of the global programme undertaken for the Year.

75. Research was carried out in order to produce an international list of indigenous organizations. The list is available as Fact Sheet No. 9, Addendum 1. The organizations on the list include those which have attended the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the World Conference on Human Rights and its satellite meetings. Also included are the following indigenous organizations which have consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council: Four Directions Council, Grand Council of the Crees (Quebec), Indian Council of South America, Indian Law Resource Centre, Indigenous World Association, International Indian Treaty Council, International Organisation of Indigenous Resource Development, Inuit Circumpolar Conference, National Aboriginal and Islander Legal Services Secretariat, National Indian Youth Council, Nordic Sami Council and World Council of Indigenous Peoples.

76. A commemorative newsletter was published in English and Spanish during 1993, to report on the opening of the Year. It contained information about activities undertaken by indigenous peoples, the United Nations, Governments and non-governmental organizations, and the world calendar of events. The newsletter was designed and published with the assistance of the Department of Public Information, with the text provided by the secretariat.

77. The secretariat was responsible for the administration of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year, and drafted guidelines which the Department of Public Information published as a brochure in all six official languages and distributed worldwide.

78. A long-term project of the Centre was to publish a book containing extracts of speeches made by indigenous peoples before United Nations forums over the years since the beginning of the Working Group on Indigenous

Populations. A first draft of the book was prepared, and the Centre hopes to attract funding from a sponsor, so that this work may be published during 1994.

79. ILO and the Centre for Human Rights collaborated on the preparation of a manual on indigenous peoples and self-government. This project is a direct response to the recommendation by indigenous peoples for the publication of such a manual made at the conference concerning indigenous peoples and self-government held in Nuuk, Greenland in September 1991 (E/CN.4/1992/42). The Danish Government generously provided funding for this exercise. This publication is due to be available for distribution during 1994.

80. There was a great deal of interest in the Year from the general public, universities, schools and other institutions. The secretariat received many invitations to attend conferences and to deliver lectures about indigenous people's issues and requests from indigenous groups to participate in their conferences came in from all over the world. There were many requests for interviews from the media. The secretariat endeavoured to respond to as many of these invitations as possible and undertook a considerable programme of engagements and travel commitments in connection with these invitations.

81. The Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, also played an important role prior to and during the International Year, bringing together indigenous and non-indigenous points of view. For many years, Ms. Daes has tirelessly devoted much of her time to indigenous peoples' concerns. She continued to travel extensively, and addressed many forums during 1993. The Coordinator takes this opportunity to express his appreciation to Ms. Daes for promoting the Year.

82. The secretariat saw an important role in liaison and coordination with other United Nations agencies. An inter-agency meeting was held in August 1992, and the secretariat endeavoured to maintain links with the other agencies throughout the Year. At the World Conference in Vienna, the secretariat facilitated a number of small meetings with indigenous peoples and agencies of the United Nations system in order to exchange information and establish networks.

V. PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

83. A substantial programme of public information activities was undertaken during the Year by the Department of Public Information, other organs of the United Nations system, and by the media and interested organizations and individuals in the private sector. DPI as the main organ responsible for undertaking public information campaigns and activities to publicize United Nations work in the field of human rights, was particularly successful in raising public awareness concerning the International Year and its objectives.

84. The Department's Public Inquiries Unit and the focal points on human rights and indigenous people in the Department's Promotion and External Relations Division responded to an enormous number of requests for information about the Year on a daily basis throughout 1993. The Department arranged for numerous briefings on the Year to visitors to Headquarters, and distributed more than 2,000 information kits on the Year to visitors.

85. In addition to facilitating media coverage of the opening ceremonies, the Department responded to an enormous number of requests for information concerning the launch of the Year from the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and individuals. It also made available upon request copies of the press releases, audio and video tapes and photographs produced by the Department of the launch and cultural event.

86. The Department's network of 67 United Nations Information Centres (UNIC) and Services (UNIS) played a significant role in furthering awareness about the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. The centres and services were very active in disseminating relevant materials such as press kits, background notes, press releases and official documents.

87. DPI published a range of public information materials on indigenous peoples and the issues facing them in the world of today. Thirty thousand copies of a colour poster (DPI/1238) were printed. The posters, in the six official languages, were distributed widely. An illustrated brochure on the aims of the Year (DPI/1249) was produced in all six official languages, with English, French and Spanish reprints undertaken in early 1993. A total of 70,000 brochures were produced.

88. Over 20,000 brochures on the guidelines for the Voluntary Fund for the Year (DPI/1313) were printed in the official languages and distributed.

89. An information kit was produced and distributed worldwide in time for it to be used for Human Rights Day on 10 December 1992. It contained the following six leaflets in English, French and Spanish: "Who Are the World's Indigenous People?" (DPI/1296); "Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" (DPI/1248); "Treaties, Agreements and 'Constructive Arrangements': Indigenous People and the Legal Landscape" (DPI/1295); "Indigenous People and Self-Rule" (DPI/1293); "Indigenous People and Intellectual and Cultural Property Rights" (DPI/1283); and "Indigenous Peoples, Environment and Development" (DPI/1294). A map/chart entitled "Where Indigenous Peoples Live" (DPI/1316) was initially distributed with the kit, but was later withdrawn in response to objections concerning its accuracy.

90. This material in English, French and Spanish was first included as half of an information kit on the World Conference on Human Rights. However, because of the heavy demand, it was reprinted in March 1993 as a separate press kit on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

91. A chapter of the 1993 publication **Notes for Speakers** on human rights issues, was devoted to indigenous peoples and a student leaflet (DPI/1374) on the Year, aimed at upper primary-level students, was published in English, French and Spanish in September 1993. The International Year was also featured as a cover story in the June 1993 issue of **UN Chronicle**, which was printed in all six official languages.

92. On 9 December, the Department organized a press conference at United Nations Headquarters on the launch of the Year with Antoine Blanca, the

former Coordinator of the Year; Luis Macas, President of the Confederación Nacional Indígena del Ecuador, and Kari Dann, a Western Shoshone activist. About 30 members of the international news media attended.

93. An indigenous member of the secretariat was the spokesperson for the Centre for Human Rights on indigenous matters at the official "Media Encounter" held in Vienna in conjunction with the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993.

94. On 18 June 1993, the theme day devoted to indigenous peoples during the World Conference on Human Rights, DPI organized two press conferences: one with Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum, the Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year, the Coordinator of the International Year, Mr. Ibrahima Fall, and Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, and a second one with Henrietta Rasmussen, Minister of Social Affairs of Greenland.

95. DPI played a major role in the organization of the events associated with the opening of the Year in New York and in obtaining wide media coverage for the events, and prepared a video showing highlights of the opening ceremonies.

96. The Department also produced a video, **"Indigenous People - a New Partnership"**, which touches upon various problems faced by indigenous people and what the United Nations is doing to help them overcome those problems. This video and the one concerning the official opening ceremonies for the Year were screened at the eleventh session (1993) of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. Both videos are being made available on request to indigenous groups and other interested organizations. **"Indigenous People - a New Partnership"** has been sent to United Nations information centres and UNDP film libraries around the world. It was produced in English, French, Spanish and Norwegian.

97. During the Year, DPI played an important role in promoting the work of the Goodwill Ambassador so that world attention was focused upon indigenous concerns.

98. Under a special fellowship programme through the Department, 14 journalists from developing nations were funded to attend and cover the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna. One of these was an indigenous Kuna journalist from Panama.

99. In October 1993, the Department mounted a major exhibition for the Year in the public lobby of the General Assembly building at Headquarters. Entitled **"Common Threads: Indigenous Peoples and the Modern World"**, this exhibit of fabrics and photographs captured the texture of life in indigenous communities round the world. An accompanying give-away brochure was produced, and an opening ceremony was held to generate media attention.

100. The Department is funding the translation and printing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights into indigenous languages. The production of the Universal Declaration in Tzotzil, Tzeltal, Tojolabal, Mayan, Chinantec and Mazatec was overseen by the United Nations Information Centre in Mexico, and undertaken by the Frente Independiente de Pueblos Indios. The Information

Centre in Bolivia had the Universal Declaration translated into Guaraní, while the Information Centre in Colombia had it translated into Wayu and Paez. The Information Centre in Bogota also had it translated into two major indigenous languages.

VI. THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

101. The General Assembly in resolution 45/164 authorized the Secretary-General to accept and administer voluntary contributions from Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the purpose of funding programme activities for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. The Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People was opened by the Secretary-General at the end of 1991 and in February 1992 the Coordinator wrote to Governments and the international community and non-governmental organizations, appealing to them to contribute to the Fund.

102. Following consultations between the Centre for Human Rights and Governments in early 1992, it was decided to set a target of US$ 500,000. It was calculated that this amount would enable from 35 to 50 small-scale projects to be approved to receive grants of up to US$ 15,000.

103. At the Technical Meeting convened in March 1992 delegates identified and approved the six major programme areas (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM/8) and decided that the major objective of the Fund should be to assist projects of direct benefit to indigenous people. It was decided that funds would be distributed to innovative small-scale practical projects of direct benefit to indigenous people, located mainly in developing nations.

104. It should be noted that some developed nations provided contributions to the Voluntary Fund from their overseas aid programmes and had indicated that the funds could only be used to assist indigenous peoples in developing nations.

105. By 31 May 1993, less than US$ 200,000 had been contributed to the Fund for projects, whilst proposals valued in excess of US$ 33 million had been received. The Coordinator sent a further appeal to Governments requesting them to contribute to the Voluntary Fund. A total of 336 active projects, valued at US$ 54,475,308, were registered by the secretariat between July 1992 and December 1993 from 53 countries. A complete list of the projects is available from the secretariat.

106. At the close of the Year on 31 December 1993 approximately US$ 670,000 had been pledged or contributed to the Fund. However, it was not possible to distribute funds in excess of US$ 400,000 at the end of 1993, as not all monies had been received in the Voluntary Fund. Several substantial pledges were not made until very late in 1993, and the actual monies were not deposited until 1994 was considerably advanced. It should also be noted that a component of the Norwegian contribution was earmarked for the indigenous staff member from that country. Contributions were received from the following Governments: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Dominica, France, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden. Contributions were also

received from the following non-governmental organizations, institutions or individuals: Shimin Gaikou, Marymont College, Mesa Redonda, Oddfellows, Children's World, the estate of Olive Gilzean, United Nations Staff Gala (Geneva), Abdelhak Chaieb, the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio. A full report on the activities of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year will be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

107. As at 30 April 1994, a total of 43 projects located in 24 countries had been recommended to the Coordinator for approval. The amount recommended for distribution to these projects totalled more than US$ 320,000.

108. In addition to the Fund, the Government of Luxembourg, the United Nations 1% Staff Fund, and a small Swiss non-governmental organization called Incomindios, assisted 10 projects which had been sent to the Fund, for a total of US$ 154,535. A private company, the Body Shop, also contributed to a health project in Brazil which had been submitted to the Fund.

109. The Fund attracted a number of inquiries and some proposals from non-indigenous individuals and organizations but it was decided that all available funds should be directed to indigenous organizations only.

110. The secretariat developed draft guidelines for the reconvened Technical Meeting held in August 1992 (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/2, annex I), which were examined and accepted by the delegates (E/CN.4/AC.4/TM.2/3). When considering projects to be approved for funding, the Coordinator took these guidelines into consideration, in addition to such issues as equity of distribution regionally and realistic financial limits.

111. As noted elsewhere, the six major programme areas were identified at the first session of the Technical Meeting. The number of projects in each category was human rights (19), development and environment (105), education and culture (92), health (23), self-management and self-government (28) and public events and information (69).

112. There was a concentration of requests (105) associated with practical physical development projects. Most of these projects were to develop agricultural enterprises or physical infrastructure in communities, which indicates that indigenous people are seeking to improve their basic living conditions. This analysis suggests that indigenous people, particularly in developing nations, are deeply concerned with the daily struggle for survival and basic education. They wish to produce enough food to sustain their communities and they hope to live in a more comfortable and accessible environment, with an improved quality of life.

113. As indigenous peoples tended to see the Fund as a development fund, there were comparatively few requests for purely human rights-type projects and projects associated with self-management and other rights. However, as the lead agency given the mandate of coordinating the programme of activities for the Decade, the Centre for Human Rights will be instrumental in encouraging indigenous peoples to seek funding for projects in the field of human rights during the forthcoming Decade.

VII. THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

114. The Nobel Peace Prize for 1992 was awarded to Rigoberta Menchú Tum, an indigenous Quiché woman from Guatemala. Mrs. Menchú Tum has attended each session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations since it commenced in 1982, has taken part in many other major human rights meetings, such as the Commission on Human Rights, and has been active in the field of indigenous rights for many years.

115. Over the years, Mrs. Menchu Tum became an acknowledged spokesperson of not only her own people, but of other indigenous peoples in their efforts to have their rights recognized in the international arena. At the time of receiving the Nobel Prize, Mrs. Menchú Tum was a member of the Coordination of Peasant Unity (CUC) and of the International Indian Treaty Council, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

116. In his message of congratulations to Mrs. Menchú Tum on the occasion of the award of the Peace Prize to her, the Secretary-General said that this was a richly deserved recognition of her struggle for human rights and for the rights of indigenous peoples everywhere. Following the award of the prize on 16 October 1992, the Secretary-General invited Mrs. Menchú Tum to consider an appointment as the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. She accepted the invitation, and the Secretary-General announced her appointment at the opening ceremonies of the Year, on 10 December 1992. The newly appointed Goodwill Ambassador was unable to speak at the opening ceremonies for the Year in New York, as they took place on the same day that she was to receive her award from the Nobel Committee in Oslo.

117. As Goodwill Ambassador, her main goals were to promote solidarity amongst and support for indigenous peoples all over the world, to stimulate dialogue with Governments and to serve as a focal point for strengthening links between indigenous peoples. In her address to the Third Committee of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, Mrs. Menchú Tum said, "It is important to make a special appeal in the Third Committee to all countries to ensure that the Year does not become a symbolic gesture, but, on the contrary, that its observance marks the beginning of a new era for the indigenous peoples within the United Nations system".

118. Amongst the major United Nations meetings that the Goodwill Ambassador addressed during 1993 were the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, the World Conference on Human Rights, the eleventh session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly in November 1993.

119. In her address to the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, she called upon Governments to recognize the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples during the International Year, and to give the Year the attention that it deserved. She suggested that the time had come for the Commission to include the consideration of the situation of indigenous peoples as a permanent item on its agenda.

120. In her address to the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the Goodwill Ambassador called upon the Conference to recommend the proclamation of an international decade for indigenous peoples and recalled the resolutions of the First Summit of Indigenous Peoples which was held at B'oko'Chimaltenango, Guatemala, from 24-28 May 1993. Mrs. Menchú Tum requested Governments to ratify all instruments that protect the rights of indigenous peoples, to recognize treaties made with them and to support the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. She asked that the post of high commissioner for indigenous peoples be created.

121. Mrs. Menchú Tum commended the Working Group on Indigenous Populations for its work over the last 10 years, and in particular its efforts in preparing the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. However, a great deal still remained to be done as violations of both the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples were still occurring.

122. Mrs. Menchú Tum facilitated two meetings with important implications for indigenous peoples, namely the First Summit of Indigenous Peoples mentioned above, and the Second Summit of Indigenous Peoples which was held at Oaxtepec, Mexico, from 4-8 October 1993. The First Summit was granted the status of a satellite meeting of the World Conference on Human Rights. The delegates to both meetings considered the circumstances of indigenous peoples, and adopted a number of resolutions with implications for the United Nations system in its future work on indigenous peoples. The resolutions related to the International Year, the future Decade, the draft declaration, the participation of indigenous peoples in the United Nations system and the establishment of mechanisms and standards at the international, intergovernmental and national levels. The indigenous delegates to both meetings condemned violence against indigenous peoples and called for long-term United Nations action to establish mechanisms to protect their civil and political rights. They also called for measures to protect their territories and the environment.

123. Mrs. Menchú Tum travelled extensively in North, Central and South America, Europe, Asia and the Pacific during 1993 and attracted extensive media coverage, both in her capacity as Goodwill Ambassador and as Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Furthermore, she addressed many meetings of United Nations agencies, intergovernmental agencies, Governments and non-governmental organizations, and met with officials at the highest levels of Government.

124. Mrs. Menchú Tum's efforts to raise awareness of the situation of indigenous peoples and of the struggle for the recognition of indigenous rights were a most important contribution to the International Year. By her very presence in the many countries that she visited, she gave important support to the indigenous peoples in those countries. Her effort to reach out to the many indigenous peoples of the world helped to establish links and create networks amongst indigenous peoples which will continue to develop strongly and lead to intensified action in the struggle for indigenous rights during the Decade.

VIII. THE MAJOR UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS DURING THE YEAR

125. A number of major United Nations meetings with important implications for indigenous peoples were held, prior to and during the International Year. Details of the most significant of these meetings follow.

The Technical Meeting

126. The General Assembly in its resolution 46/128 recommended holding a Technical Meeting early in 1992 and the first session of the Technical Meeting was held in Geneva from 9-11 March 1992. This meeting identified the six major programme areas, as noted above.

127. In order to elaborate the plan of action for the Year, the meeting was reconvened on the three days following the tenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations to take advantage of the presence of the delegates to the Working Group. At this second session, two indigenous representatives were appointed as Vice-Chairpersons: Mr. Michael Dodson of the Northern Land Council, an indigenous organization in Australia, and Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum, as representative of the International Indian Treaty Council.

128. The discussions confirmed a number of general orientations and the guidelines for the Voluntary Fund proposed by the secretariat were accepted. Delegates reaffirmed the priorities for projects and emphasis was laid on projects having practical benefits for indigenous communities, primarily, but not exclusively in developing countries. Extensive summaries of the discussion were prepared by the Vice-Chairpersons (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/3, annex).

129. Both meetings were opened by the then Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights, Mr. Antoine Blanca, the Coordinator for the Year, and were Chaired by Mrs. Ligía Galvis (Colombia).

130. In its resolution 47/75, the General Assembly requested the Coordinator to reconvene the Technical Meeting for a third time, with a view to concluding its deliberations and finalizing the report on the outcomes of the three meetings. The third session of the Technical Meeting was also chaired by Mrs. Ligía Galvis. The report of the meeting was submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session (E/CN.4/1994/86). A summary of the major recommendations follow.

131. In the field of human rights, indigenous peoples requested that an annual report be prepared on their global situation. Training and education in human rights to assist in decision-making and to enable indigenous peoples to participate fully in international forums were considered priorities.

132. Racism, policies of assimilation and paternalism should be eliminated, and nation States should ensure that their laws and legislation respect indigenous peoples and their cultures.

133. It was recommended that the members of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations should visit conflict areas where the rights and freedoms of

indigenous peoples are in danger of being violated. The circumstances of indigenous refugees and displaced persons should be examined, as should the circumstances of indigenous prisoners.

134. The ratification of ILO Convention No. 169 should be promoted.

135. Concerning environment and development, indigenous peoples should be given the opportunity to develop their economies, to incorporate new technologies, to generate income and attract investment whilst retaining their traditional methods, with the view to becoming financially independent.

136. Indigenous peoples wish to find commercial markets for their products and suggest that an international trade fair of indigenous products would assist in opening up markets for them. It was recommended that studies should be carried out concerning economic development in indigenous communities.

137. Projects to enhance employment education and training must be promoted. Cultural exchanges between indigenous peoples were recommended and Governments and non-indigenous peoples should be educated to respect indigenous ceremonial sites.

138. It was recommended that the World Health Organization (WHO) should collect data, assess the state of indigenous peoples' health and produce an annual report to be presented to the World Health Assembly each year, and invite indigenous health professionals, including practitioners of traditional medicine, to address the Assembly. WHO should appoint a focal point to deal with indigenous health matters and create a Centre for Indigenous Health. A meeting of indigenous health professionals, including practitioners of traditional medicine, should be convened by WHO, and an expert committee of indigenous health professionals, including practitioners of traditional medicine, to advise WHO on indigenous health matters should be created.

139. In general, the use of natural, traditional medicines and healing practices should be promoted and strategies to improve the standard of environmental health in communities should be implemented.

140. Priority should be given to projects that are aimed at enhancing indigenous autonomy; indigenous peoples' right to self-determination should be promoted, and a conference held on the subject. It was recommended that every effort should be made to carry out the demarcation of indigenous lands and territories.

141. The United Nations needs to develop a long-term plan of information and awareness activities on behalf of indigenous peoples with strategies to promote the use of the media by indigenous peoples. The text of all United Nations instruments and human rights procedures should be distributed widely and, where possible, translated into indigenous languages.

142. A number of recommendations related to the United Nations system, and it was recommended that United Nations agencies active in the field of development should write guidelines for their activities affecting indigenous

peoples, create special indigenous programmes in consultation with indigenous peoples and allocate adequate permanent budgets for such programmes. Indigenous issues should be discussed, and decisions taken at the level of the governing bodies of these agencies.

143. Technical assistance should be made available to indigenous peoples. There should be clear information available about programmes and about how to present proposals for assistance. Adequate financial assistance should be available for indigenous people to travel to attend meetings where matters affecting them are being discussed. Ways should be identified to enable indigenous peoples to participate fully at all levels. Focal points should be appointed.

144. Assistance should not be granted exclusively to indigenous peoples in developing countries and the activities of the United Nations system should be coordinated.

145. At all sessions, the indigenous delegates confirmed the importance of full consultation with indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels, and involving them in the planning, management, implementation and evaluation of all projects affecting them was emphasized.

General Assembly

146. The official inauguration ceremonies of the Year were conducted during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on 10 December 1992. Twenty indigenous representatives addressed the General Assembly, and resolution 47/75, on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, 1993 was adopted, proclaiming the Year and calling for a system-wide programme of action to support the Year. The United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the Year addressed the Third Committee.

147. The United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year also addressed the Third Committee of the General Assembly during its forty-eighth session. At that session the Assembly adopted two resolutions of importance to indigenous peoples, resolution 48/133, "International Year of the World's Indigenous People, 1993" and resolution 48/163, "International Decade of the World's Indigenous People". In resolution 48/133 the Assembly called upon the international community to continue to develop policies and programmes to support the objectives of the Year, and recommended that all thematic rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups pay particular attention to the situation of indigenous peoples. For resolution 48/163, the Assembly proclaimed the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to commence on 10 December 1994, with the period 1 January to 9 December 1994 to be set aside for planning for the Decade in partnership with indigenous peoples.

Commission on Human Rights

148. As the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights was held early in the International Year, under agenda item 28 a special commemorative meeting to celebrate the Year was held. Statements were made by the Chairman of the Commission, H.E. Mr. M. Ennaceur (Tunisia), the United Nations Goodwill

Ambassador, the Coordinator of the Year, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the Chairperson of the Technical Meeting on the International Year. Including the Goodwill Ambassador, 17 indigenous representatives addressed the Commission on this occasion. Government delegations representative of all regions made statements.

World Conference on Human Rights

149. Three meetings of indigenous peoples were held as satellite meetings of the World Conference of Human Rights. From 1-2 April 1990 the North American region indigenous nations held an official satellite meeting for the World Conference on Human Rights, in Ottawa. This was followed by the First Summit of Indigenous Peoples in May, and a meeting of the Asian Conference on the Rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples at Chiangmai, Thailand, from 18-23 May 1993.

150. Indigenous peoples from many nations attended the World Conference in Vienna and participated very actively. On 18 June 1993, the World Conference held a meeting to commemorate the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. Statements were made by the President, H.E. Mr. Alois Mock (Austria), the Coordinator of the Year, and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. The President invited an indigenous representative from Tahiti, Mr. Tetiarahi Labi, to lead the conference in a few moments of spiritual reflection. Twelve indigenous persons, including the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, addressed the meeting. The speakers were Mr. Ted Moses, Mr. Aucan Huilcaman Paillama, Mr. Luingum Luthui, Ms. Lena Norlund, Mr. Kimpei Munei, Dame Mira Szazy, Ms. Bernice See Latikan, Mr. Onel Arias, Ms. Henrietta Rasmussen, Ms. Lois O'Donoghue and Mr. W.R. Ole Ntimama. These speakers addressed the concerns of indigenous peoples in Asia, Africa, North and Latin America, Europe and Oceania, and indigenous women and youth. Three Governments, Australia, Denmark and Kenya, had provided the space for indigenous persons from their countries to speak. Further statements were also made by a number of Governments.

151. Following the statements, the Coordinator, the Goodwill Ambassador and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations held a press conference.

152. The World Conference on Human Rights called upon States to take positive steps to ensure respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (A/CONF.157/23, part II, paras. 28-32) contains a number of recommendations concerning indigenous peoples including the proclamation of an international decade of the world's indigenous people.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations

153. The eleventh session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations was well attended by indigenous peoples' representatives, including the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador. Over 600 persons attended the session.

154. The session dealt with a very comprehensive agenda and, under the guidance of its Chairperson-Rapporteur, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, completed the

final draft of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. After careful consideration of all comments, proposals and amendments, the Working Group agreed on a final text of the draft declaration and decided to submit it to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its forty-sixth session in 1994. The Working Group further recommended that the Sub-Commission submit the draft declaration to the Commission on Human Rights for consideration at its fifty-first session in 1995 (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/29 and Add.1-2).

155. An indigenous initiative during the Working Group was the holding of a cultural evening to which all delegates to the Working Group were invited. This event was funded by indigenous peoples themselves.

Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

156. Three resolutions, 1993/44, 1993/45 and 1993/46, were adopted by the Sub-Commission at its forty-fifth session.

157. In resolution 1993/44, "Cultural and intellectual property of indigenous peoples", the Sub-Commission expressed its appreciation to the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, for her comprehensive study on the protection of the cultural and intellectual property of indigenous peoples (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/28) and requested her to expand it with a view to elaborating draft principles and guidelines for the protection of the heritage of indigenous peoples.

158. In resolution 1993/45 "Discrimination against indigenous peoples", the Sub-Commission endorsed the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action concerning the proclamation of an international decade of the world's indigenous people, recommended the holding of a land rights seminar, and requested the Secretary-General to consider establishing a permanent forum for indigenous peoples in the United Nations system.

159. By resolution 1993/46, the Sub-Commission decided to postpone until its forty-sixth session its consideration of the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples.

IX. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ACTIVITIES

160. The secretariat received information from all over the world about events for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People that had been organized by indigenous peoples, or by non-governmental organizations in partnership with indigenous peoples.

161. The following list is not definitive, and the secretariat is aware that many events have not been mentioned. Firstly, the intention was to provide a global picture of the activities that took place to commemorate the year, by region and theme rather than by individual nation. Projects which had an international perspective were selected, wherever possible, for inclusion. Secondly, at the time that this document was prepared, many reports had not yet been received, and it was expected that indigenous organizations would bring reports of their activities to the Technical Meeting on the International Year and Decade to be held from 20-22 July 1994.

162. In the United States of America, native Indian nations, communities, groups and leaders undertook many activities for the Year. Early in the International Year, a group of indigenous representatives from the United States met with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Indigenous leaders present were Stephen Defender, John Yellow Bird Steele, Clara Nomee, Earl Old Person, Caleb Shields, Oren Lyons, Tanya Fritchern, Birgil Kills Strait, Willie Kasawie, Coleman Kaopua and Jack Schaefer. The leaders spoke of some of the major concerns of indigenous peoples and hoped that the United Nations and Governments would respond during the International Year.

163. Prior to 1993 a Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People had been established in New York. This initiative involved indigenous leaders in the United States and established contacts with, amongst others, the Haudenosaunee Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy, the Teton Sioux Nation Treaty Council, the Continental Coordinating Commission of Indigenous Nations, the Native American Council of New York City and the Indigenous Women's Network.

164. The Committee developed a work plan for the Year. Sir Paul Reeves, the Anglican Observer at the United Nations, took an active role in the Committee and represented it at all sessions of the Technical Meeting, for the Year in Geneva. At the first session of the Technical Meeting, in March 1992, the Anglican Observer presented a written statement setting out a schedule of activities for the Year, which had been proposed by the Committee (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM/NGO/3). The Committee also played an active part in and presented papers to the World Conference on Human Rights and monitored the United Nations activities associated with the Year. The Committee and the Native American Council of New York City took an active part in the preparations for and organization of events for the opening of the Year in New York in December 1992.

165. In New Zealand, several events of international significance took place. They were an International Indigenous Peoples Conference on the Sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples, an International Conference for Indigenous Women hosted by the Maori Women's Welfare League, an International Spiritual Elders Conference, an Arts Symposium for Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Rim Countries and a Conference on the Cultural and Intellectual Property of Indigenous Peoples.

166. In Hawaii, the International Peoples' Tribunal, Hawai'i took place with indigenous cultural activities and featuring mock trials of parties involved in land disputes.

167. The Kanaky peoples of New Caledonia celebrated the International Year with celebrations involving cultural events as well as gatherings of indigenous leaders, scholars and representatives to discuss issues of concern to all such as land rights, the environment, decolonization, health and education, and the rights of indigenous peoples in New Caledonia. In Fiji, a special day was set aside to celebrate the International Year and to remember Fiji's greatest indigenous statesman, the late Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna.

168. In Papua New Guinea, the West Papuan Indigenous Peoples of Iowara Refugee Camp, at East Awin, conducted several meetings of women, youth and tribal elders, and developed a solemn statement on the International Year, which was sent to the United Nations.

169. Amongst the many events held in Australia were an international cultural festival, an international indigenous early childhood seminar, the Second World Indigenous Youth Conference and the World Indigenous Peoples' Conference: Education.

170. Indigenous and tribal peoples in the Asia region also organized events and meetings during the International Year. Two conferences took place in the Philippines. The First Asian indigenous women's conference - sharing commonalities and diversities, forging unity towards indigenous women's empowerment, was hosted by the Cordillera Women's Education and Resource Centre from 24-30 January 1993 in Baguio City. The United Nations Goodwill Ambassador opened the Global Youth Earth Saving Summit in the Philippines with the theme of indigenous peoples and youth participating for sustainable development.

171. The Year was also commemorated at the Niraikanai Festival for World Peace in Japan. Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum visited Japan and held high-level meetings with senior government officials.

172. In India, the World Chakma Conference, with its theme "The Chakmas in a new partnership", was organized by the All India Chakma Cultural Conference. A number of other events including various exhibitions of visual and performing arts and traditions of indigenous and tribal peoples, a seminar dealing with tribal women and development, and an international conference on indigenous people, forest conservation and environmental protection were held. A conference of the Pacific Asia Council of Indigenous Peoples International was held at Ranchi, followed by the World Assembly of Indigenous and Tribal People in New Delhi.

173. Indigenous peoples' organizations in all the countries of Central and South America carried out a comprehensive programme of activities, many of which linked peoples across State frontiers.

174. A general assembly of the Federación de Centros Shuar-Achuar was held at the organization's headquarters in Sucua in the province of Morona Santiago, Ecuador. An international seminar-workshop on plans and perspectives for sustainable development in the Maya World regions was an indigenous initiative co-organized by UNESCO in Chichicastenango, Guatemala.

175. Many events took place in Mexico, including the Second Encounter of Mayan Elders and Priests, and an Assembly of the Chinantec, Mazatec and Cuicatec Regional Councils, the World Council of Indigenous Peoples: International Conference of Indigenous Peoples, the Congress of the Independent Front of Indigenous Peoples, and a Continental Conference of Indigenous Peoples and Nations.

176. Events in Peru included a conference on an international alliance between the world's indigenous people from the tropical forests, arranged by the

Coordinating Body for the Indigenous Peoples' Organization of the Amazon Basin (COICA), a seminar on human rights and indigenous peoples and the First Congress of Indigenous Intellectuals. The organization Comisión Jurídica de los Pueblos de Integración Tawantinsuyana (COJPITA), together with the Regional Organization of Andean Women (ORMI), held the First Regional Meeting of Andean Women.

177. In Brazil the First National Conference of Indigenous Youth was a significant event for the Year and 155 young people participated with tribal and spiritual chiefs. An Indigenous Youth Commission was created. During 1993, the Inter-Tribal Committee of Brazil developed extensive contacts with indigenous villages throughout the country, and the Southern Alliance of Indigenous Peoples was created to link peoples in Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Bolivia.

178. In Nicaragua the XIth Congress of Indigenous Inter-American Peoples was convened, and the first meeting on Mapuche education and language was held in Neuquen, Argentina. An event in the Bahamas was the Final Walkabout Conference for Indigenous People.

179. The secretariat was advised of many events in Guatemala, including a Latin American seminar on indigenous women, textiles and cultural identity and the World Council of Indigenous Peoples International Indigenous Women's Conference. Also, the World Council of Indigenous Peoples convened its seventh General Assembly and closing of the Year ceremonies in Guatemala.

180. The indigenous nations of Canada were very active during the International Year, and arranged many important events. Some of the highlights were an International Conference on Higher Education and Indigenous People, at the University of British Colombia in Vancouver; the Beaver Lake First Nation competition Pow Wow dedicated to the "International Year for the World's Indigenous People - 501 Years of Survival", was held at Lac La Biche, Alberta; the Women and Wellness Conference was organized in Saskatchewan; there was a Youth Conference in Edmonton and an Earth Spirit Festival in Toronto. The National Addictions Awareness Week was an important contribution by the Nechi Institute on Alcohol and Drug Education with the goal of promoting positive lifestyles free of alcohol and drug abuse. A conference on "The prevention and treatment of drug, alcohol and solvent abuse issues in northern settlements" was also convened at Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories. An Indigenous Nations of the Americas International Conference entitled "Strengthening the spirit", with working groups and cultural events, was organized by the Indigenous 500 Committee in Ottawa.

181. The indigenous peoples of the circumpolar regions, including Greenland, the Nordic Countries, the Russian Federation and Alaska, carried out an impressive programme of activities both at the international and national levels.

182. During January and February, celebrations for the opening of the International Year were held by the Sami peoples of Norway, Finland, Sweden and the Russia Federation. In May, the first elections for the Sami Parliament were conducted in Sweden and in August the King and Queen of Sweden opened the Swedish Sami Parliament. A seminar on Sami culture was arranged in

February by the Finno-Ugric Department and the Department of Religious Science at Helsinki University, and in June, also in Helsinki, a Sami Festival was held which introduced different aspects of Sami culture during the last 20 years.

183. In Norway, many seminars were arranged by the Sami including a conference, "International Indigenous Politics and Self-Government", held at the Centre for Sami Studies of the University of Tromso. "The Northern Forum Conference, People in the North: Regional Rights and Regional Management" was also held in Tromso. The fifth World Wilderness Congress - "Wild Nature and Sustainable Living in Circumpolar Regions" - took place at Svalbard, Norway. The Second Polar Night Symposium, "Traditional Knowledge in Ecological Zones: The Indigenous Viewpoints", was organized by the Nordic Sami Institute at Guovdageaidnu in Norway.

184. In Greenland there were many activities including a youth conference, with emphasis on culture, education and science; the general assembly of Indigenous Survival International, at Sisimiut; and Aasivik, a cultural summer festival focused on traditional and modern music, theatre and art, as well as political issues, and particularly highlighting the International Year. "In the Name of Human Rights" was a recording of Greenlandic music dedicated to the Year by Silamusic, Greenland.

185. Other meetings of interest in this region were the Circumpolar Indigenous Youth Conference, organized by the Sami Council and the International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs in Copenhagen, Denmark, and the Nordic Scientific Symposium on Indigenous Peoples in the North concerning the right to self-determination and self-government of the indigenous Sami peoples, including those from Siberia, and Greenlanders, was organized by the Greenland Home-rule Office in Copenhagen.

186. The University of Alaska at Anchorage convened an International Conference on Higher Education and Indigenous People and the Indigenous Programme of the International Congress on Circumpolar Health took place in Reykjavik, Iceland.

187. The Davvi Suvva II Festival, an indigenous peoples' cultural festival held in Karesuando, Sweden, was organized by Finnish and Swedish Lapp associations. It featured modern and traditional artists from Samiland, Greenland, New Zealand, Canada, Siberia and Australia.

188. Some of the events in the Russian Federation were a fund-raising television programme and an exhibition on the development of Northern people. An International Conference for the Finno-Ugrian indigenous peoples was also convened in Hantij-Mansijsk, Russia.

189. To date the secretariat has received little information about events in Africa for the Year. However, a number of representatives of the Masai peoples attended the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, and two Masai persons addressed the Conference.

X. ACTIVITIES OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR AND OTHERS

190. International non-governmental organizations and, in most nations, national non-governmental organizations were very active during the Year, and details of the many activities are available in the publications of these organizations. Only a few examples of such activities can be provided in this report.

191. The European Alliance with Indigenous Peoples, based in Brussels, compiled a report on the International Year which described some of the activities carried out, particularly in Europe. The report mentioned that some 700 non-governmental organizations belonging to the Non-Governmental Organizations-European Union Liaison Committee adopted a statement recognizing indigenous peoples' rights to their culture and lands, and urging the European Union to make a significant contribution to the Year.

192. The Alliance for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (ARIP) is a coalition of some 120 member and support organizations based in the United Kingdom. The Alliance was formed to promote the International Year in the United Kingdom. This coalition arranged many events and educational activities throughout the Year. It was involved in numerous campaigns and its member organizations arranged indigenous speakers for public meetings.

193. Survival International strengthened links between tribal peoples across the world and supported indigenous peoples from such diverse places as Siberia, the Sudan, Canada and Venezuela.

194. Smaller organisations, such as the Performing and Fine Artists for World Peace from Hawaii, focused on the Year and toured Europe during 1993. September 1993 was celebrated as the International Month of Peace (Many Cultures/One Family). The Society for Threatened People, Switzerland, arranged for a delegation of Adivasi from India to tour Europe and Switzerland.

195. Major human rights non-governmental organizations, universities and foundations addressed indigenous themes in conferences, seminars and lectures around the world.

196. The World Council of Churches held a seminar with consultations with indigenous peoples, constitutional experts and church representatives to suggest guidelines for study and reflection of sovereignty and self-determination, with the possibility of producing a resource book for the World Council of Churches' member churches; it also held two regional meetings of the network of indigenous women.

197. In Geneva, on 21 September 1993, World Peace Day, a celebration organized by the Non-governmental Organizations Committee was held with the focus on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, and Mr. Ibrahima Fall, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and the Coordinator for the Year, was invited to address the meeting. Presentations were also delivered by representatives of the International Indian Treaty Council, the World Council of Churches and the Quechua people from Bolivia. The proceeds from the evening were to benefit the construction of an Indian school in Bolivia.

198. During the International Year, the Bernard Van Leer Foundation in the Netherlands supported projects in Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Guatemala, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, and Peru to benefit indigenous children.

199. The Dutch Centre for Indigenous Peoples held a congress entitled "Voices of the earth: indigenous peoples, new partners, the right to self-determination in practice" in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in November 1993.

200. An international conference on indigenous people, to consider ways and means of promoting the free development of indigenous nations, their relationships with the governmental structures, and measures to protect traditional languages and religions in order to strengthen international cooperation, was sponsored by the Russian National Committee for the International Year and the Lawyers Union, Moscow.

201. A conference on "The question of indigenous peoples in Africa" was jointly organized by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs and the Centre for Development Research. The conference was sponsored by the Danish Development Agency. The proceedings of the conference have been published by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs and the Centre for Development Research in book form under the title "...Never Drink from the Same Cup".

202. A special seminar on diplomacy and the International Year was organized by the University of Cordoba, Argentina, and the International Commission of Jurists organized a conference in Bolivia for the indigenous peoples of Bolivia, to bring to the attention of different indigenous groups the various international instruments that relate to their situation.

203. Survival International together with the Alliance for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples arranged a forum and a press conference in London which gave indigenous peoples an opportunity to give interviews to the BBC World Service and Radio 4.

204. Amnesty International marked 1993 with the publication of a special bulletin supplement reviewing Amnesty International's concerns regarding indigenous peoples throughout the world.

205. "The Law of the Mother - Protecting Indigenous Peoples in Protected Areas" was a publication of the World Wildlife Fund and the World Conservation Union with the support of the Commission of the European Communities.

206. Ellipsis Arts, a music company in the United States, dedicated a package of a book and two compact discs or tapes called "Voices of Forgotten Worlds - Traditional Music of Indigenous People" to the Year, with a percentage of sales to be donated to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. Several other musicians, artists and private concerns supported the Year.

207. The Body Shop, a private company, produced a large wall chart for schools, with interesting information about indigenous peoples, superimposed upon a map of the world indicating generally where they live. Interested

groups were invited to use the art work and adapt the text to regional requirements with translations into local languages if possible and where appropriate.

208. A multi-media initiative of the Television Trust for the Environment was "First Nations First" which included a selection of films, news clips and printed informational and educational materials about indigenous peoples.

209. Many other media organizations actively supported the Year and took active roles in promoting awareness of indigenous peoples circumstances. The Centre for International Media Research in the Netherlands promoted a package of over 50 outstanding documentary films about indigenous peoples in the Americas and the Arctic region.

210. The Fourth International Festival of Documentary Film of Amascultura with a focus on American Indians was held at the Centro Cultural da Malaposta in Odivelas, Portugal, and in Australia, a conference was held on "The media and indigenous Australians".

211. Cultural Survival published the first issue of "State of the Nations", a report on the political, human rights, economic and environmental status of the world's indigenous peoples.

XI. THE RESPONSE OF GOVERNMENTS

212. Many Governments provided comprehensive reports to the Technical Meetings held prior to and during the Year. The Coordinator wrote to Governments again in March 1994 requesting their final reports on the Year. At the time of preparing this report, only a few Governments had been able to provide reports. However, it is understood that the majority of Governments will be providing their reports at the time of the Technical Meeting to be held from 20-22 July 1994.

213. At the third session of the Technical Meeting, many Governments spoke of and provided reports on the activities in their countries to celebrate the Year. As the Year was well advanced at that stage, these reports are also a valuable source of information about programmes for the Year.

214. The Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted a report of governmental activities commemorating the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, based on information provided by the General Direction of Indigenous Affairs of the Ministry of Interior. During the Year, inter-agency committees were set up at the national, regional and local levels to plan and coordinate joint policies concerning the economic, cultural and social life of indigenous peoples, and worked closely with indigenous communities on matters such as health, education, agricultural production, arts and crafts, demarcation of land and indigenous mining zones. A Permanent Committee on Indigenous Human Rights was established and a council was created to assist and monitor mining in indigenous areas. ILO Convention No. 169 was promoted and the Ministry provided legal assistance to indigenous communities in their negotiations with the State and private enterprises for the exploitation of mineral resources in their territories.

215. During 1993, the Spanish Government actively supported the Latin American and Caribbean Fund for the Development of Indigenous Populations, and a meeting was held in Madrid to discuss the issue of indigenous economies in Spanish-American relations. The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation organized in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, a seminar on indigenous peoples, systems of cooperation and strategies of development. The Casa de las Americas, of Madrid, established a Diploma on Indigenous Studies, organized seminars about relevant matters and created the Bartolomé de las Casas Award to support research and cooperation in the field of human rights.

216. The activities promoted by the Venezuelan Government had the purpose of improving the socio-economic situation of indigenous peoples in Venezuela and of solving, with their participation, some of their problems in the fields of human rights, environment and development. Ten workshops concerning education were organized during 1994 and handbooks and booklets were published. Some scholarships were granted to indigenous students and training projects for teachers were developed. Medical training projects were supported and arts and crafts were promoted. Material about "Intercultural Education for Health" was published and distributed among the Yanomami, and there were a number of meetings and agreements with different agencies dealing with national and international indigenous issues.

217. The Government of Chile described some of the activities, such as public awareness programmes and legislative reforms, that had been undertaken by Chile on a national level to celebrate the International Year. The Government of Mexico reported on a wide range of national activities launched to mark the Year. In Sweden, the first elections to the Samiting, the Sami Parliament, were held in May 1993. This was seen as a significant development in Sami affairs in Sweden. The Parliament has an important role to play in policy formulation. Amongst other activities in Sweden were the setting up of an authority to coordinate the activities for the Year and a wide range of activities of cultural and intellectual significance were carried out by Sami communities in Sweden, the Nordic Sami Council and the Nordic Sami Institute.

218. The report from New Zealand emphasized that the Government is committed to a partnership with the indigenous peoples of New Zealand. The Government supported many Maori initiatives, including those in the fields of health, education and environment, and provided NZ$ 300,000 for projects for the Year. Lead responsibility for the Year was assigned to Te Puni Kokiri, (the Ministry of Maori Development). A number of government departments undertook projects relating to the Year, and an education kit was distributed widely.

219. In its interim report, Canada reported that the federal Government activities were being coordinated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, with the Department of External Affairs being responsible for international activities. Besides specific proposals for the Year, objectives under the Native Agenda were being significantly advanced during 1993. An extensive range of activities were being generated in that country to mark the Year. Provincial governments had been asked to focus on the Year, in a national effort to ensure that issues of the Indian and Inuit communities were recognized. Programmes to raise awareness of indigenous peoples and their cultures, to improve relations and to involve indigenous

peoples in programmes affecting them were launched. Posters, stamp issues, educational materials and support for the North American indigenous games marked the Year. An extensive awareness programme, including cultural exchanges, was taking place through the embassies abroad.

220. A comprehensive report of activities in Australia has been provided by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, which included a section on activities undertaken by the Government. Australia supported the Year strongly with over 500 activities being undertaken by Commonwealth departments and agencies for the Year. Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, was a keynote speaker at an important conference in Canberra entitled "The position of indigenous peoples in national constitutions".

221. The Government of Finland prepared a full report on activities in that country during 1993. Publicity materials were produced and distributed, a press conference was held and many seminars, film festivals and cultural festivals concerning not only the Sami peoples, but indigenous peoples from other nations, were supported. Lectures and conferences targeting the arts, culture and language were also important activities for the Year.

222. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland provided a report with details of activities carried out by the Alliance for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which was formed by a number of non-governmental organizations to promote the Year in the United Kingdom. Similarly, the Government of the Netherlands, whilst pointing out that there are no indigenous peoples in the territory of the Netherlands, provided the text of the Final Declaration of the congress "Voices of the earth: indigenous peoples, new partners, the right to self-determination in practice", which was held 10-11 November 1993 in Amsterdam. The Netherlands noted that this was drawn up by a private organization and does not reflect the Netherlands' policy position. The Netherlands also published a document "Indigenous peoples in the Netherlands foreign policy and development cooperation" on 14 May 1993.

223. An international seminar concerning indigenous peoples was hosted by the Malaysian Government. The seminar "Indigenous people - the way forward" was held in Kuala Lumpur, from 29 November to 1 December 1993. Over 350 representatives of Governments, indigenous peoples, the press, academics and scholars attended from 38 countries. The Centre for Human Rights, ILO, UNESCO and the European Communities were also represented.

224. An international consultation, held in Khabarovsk in the Russian Federation, on the situation of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic and Siberian regions, entitled "Indigenous people - a new partnership: defining priorities and long-term goals" was sponsored by several United Nations agencies and co-organized by the Russian Federation State Committee on Federal and Nationality Issues, the Russian Federation State Committee for the Social and Economic Development of the North and the administration of the Khabarovsk region.

225. The full text of all reports received are available for reference from the secretariat. In its resolutions 46/128 and 48/133, the General Assembly

requested the Coordinator to present a final report on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly. A summary of all the reports received from Governments will be included in that report.

XII. THE RESPONSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

226. The General Assembly, in its resolution 46/128, requested the United Nations system to be actively involved in developing projects for the Year, and in the annex recommended areas of cooperation. This section provides some of the highlights of the activities of the United Nations system. Due to space limitations, only a few examples can be provided but it will be noted that the United Nations family of agencies was actively involved in the promotion of the Year.

227. Details of the contributions of ILO, the co-sponsor of the Year, and of DPI are noted in previous sections. The inter-agency planning meetings are also mentioned elsewhere.

228. The United Nations Department of Development Support and Management Services reported that it managed a project, financed by the Government of Italy, aimed at strengthening organizations of indigenous people in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, through the training of trainers in training methods and project preparation.

229. The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean participated in indigenous peoples' meetings and consultations with Governments and indigenous peoples in Bolivia and Chile. The Asian Development Bank appointed a focal point for tribal and indigenous peoples and developed guidelines for working with indigenous peoples.

230. The World Bank organized a conference on the theme "Traditional peoples and sustainable development", completed a major study of "Poverty and indigenous peoples in Latin America", and organized training workshops to assist indigenous peoples to plan their own development projects. Other projects concerned indigenous peoples in Africa, South and Central Asia and Russia and its Small Grants Programme supported several indigenous projects.

231. On the United Nations side, the cost of the international consultation held in Khabarovsk in the Russian Federation on the situation of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic and Siberian regions was covered by a contribution from the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, ILO, UNDP and UNEP, with voluntary contributions from Norway, Sweden and the Greenland Home-rule Government.

232. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlement (Habitat) gave particular attention to the provision of shelter and related services in settlements of indigenous peoples during the International Year.

233. Some of the activities supported by UNESCO, were an international seminar on plans and perspectives for sustainable development in the Maya World regions in Guatemala; a seminar on the theme "Education, work and cultural pluralism" with participation by indigenous leaders and experts in Mexico;

provision of support for the first summit of indigenous leaders at Chimaltenango, Guatemala, organized by the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador and the organization of an international seminar on Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights in the Context of the New Relationships in Mexico. The seminar adopted the recommendations that were presented in the "Open Letter from AK-Kim-Pech (Campeche)" that was addressed to the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna.

234. The World Day for Cultural Development celebrations with the theme "Culture, education and work" centred on indigenous peoples was sponsored by UNESCO at United Nations Headquarters. On World Gratitude Day an exhibit of indigenous children's art was displayed in the public lobby of the United Nations building in New York.

235. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prepared a report, for internal usage, on the situation of indigenous peoples, their problems and how UNHCR might best meet their needs. The United Nations Volunteers also were involved in programmes for indigenous peoples in Guatemala, Bolivia and the Atlantic coast of South America.

236. WHO acknowledged the urgent need to develop strategies to improve the health of indigenous peoples. During the Forty-sixth World Health Assembly in 1993, an indigenous person gave an address on behalf of the Coordinator of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

237. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific commented upon the indigenous peoples in that region, and decided to make every possible effort to incorporate the interests of indigenous peoples in the implementation of its thematic programme on poverty alleviation through economic growth and social development, as well as of the Regional Social Development Strategy.

238. A three-day seminar "The United Nations in Thailand: its goals and actions in the fields of justice, development and environment", was organized in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in collaboration with the United Nations Association of Thailand, UNEP, ILO, UNESCO and UNICEF.

239. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) also recognized the importance of the Year, and undertook specific projects for it, such as the IFAD study "Indigenous peoples in Latin America: IFAD policy and projects". WFP's Journal included a special feature on indigenous peoples.

240. UNDP requested the Inter-American Indigenous Institute to prepare a report proposing activities for UNDP to carry out for the Year. Draft operational guidelines were developed and are being reviewed in 1994. Some of the projects in the field were supported in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and, in South-East Asia, Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam.

XIII. CONCLUSIONS: THE SUCCESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND LESSONS DRAWN FROM IT

241. The objectives of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People were described in detail in section II. It was hoped that international cooperation would be strengthened in finding solutions to the problems faced by indigenous peoples and that new partnerships would be built.

242. Although not all objectives were fully achieved within the short space of 12 months, a great deal was accomplished in this time; indigenous peoples everywhere intensified their campaigns for the recognition of their civil, political, cultural, economic and social rights. The success of the Year was due to the endeavours of many people, both indigenous and non-indigenous, all over the world.

243. The Goodwill Ambassador for the Year and 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum, was an inspiration to indigenous peoples, and her efforts contributed significantly to the success of the Year.

244. Considering the extensive programme of activities that took place all over the world; the efforts of individuals such as the Goodwill Ambassador, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Technical Meeting on the Year, Mrs. Ligía Galvis, and the Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Ms. Erica-Irene A. Daes; the efforts of indigenous peoples both collectively and individually; and the programmes undertaken by the non-governmental sector, the conclusion must be drawn that the Year was a success.

245. One of the lessons learned from the Year is that communications networks need to be strengthened and a study on how best to spread information amongst indigenous peoples needs to be undertaken. The dissemination of information has to be in indigenous languages, it has to reach peoples on time, and often has to reach very remote areas. Communications strategies need to be practical, workable and accessible. The secretariat considered that one of the major practical limitations was the lack of facilities to develop a comprehensive communications strategy.

246. Adequate resources, the means to develop a well-planned programme, sufficient time and a substantial communications strategy are essential elements for the preparation of and the successful implementation of international year or decade programmes. Furthermore, it would have been wise to have identified resources, possibly from the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People itself, to have allowed the secretariat to carry out fund-raising and promotional activities. Some travel with a fund-raising goal could have encouraged contributions far in excess of any amount absorbed by the secretariat in travel costs.

247. Indigenous peoples opened dialogues with many United Nations agencies and some serious deficiencies in the various programmes with respect to indigenous peoples were identified. The organs of the United Nations system need to build upon the lessons learned in the Year, and to open spaces for indigenous

peoples in their programmes. There is a great need to consult more widely with indigenous peoples and to consult and negotiate with them when developing projects that affect their lives.

248. Raising the awareness of the world community about the circumstances of indigenous peoples and aiming to increase indigenous peoples' knowledge about the United Nations system were important expectations for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. By the end of the Year, there was a much greater understanding of the issues confronting indigenous peoples and increased knowledge about indigenous peoples themselves.

249. However, although extensive promotional programmes were undertaken successfully throughout the world, the problems facing the world's indigenous peoples were far too serious and extensive to be resolved in just one year.

XIV. THE DECADE AND PLANNING THE BEGINNING OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP

250. The General Assembly proclaimed the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People in its resolution 48/163. The Decade will commence on 10 December 1994, with the period 1 January to 9 December to be set aside for planning for the Decade, in partnership with indigenous peoples. The Assembly decided that the goal of the Decade should be the strengthening of international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health.

251. The planning for the future is inevitably interlinked with the Decade. A programme for the Decade will be developed in July 1994 at the Technical Meeting called to discuss the Year and the Decade, and it is essential that short-, medium-, and long-term targets are adopted so that the maximum value is obtained from the 10 years.

252. Many important issues will be discussed and resolved during the Decade. The draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples will leave the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and will, in due course, be considered for adoption by the General Assembly; a permanent forum for indigenous peoples should be established in the United Nations system; and an International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples will be decided upon and celebrated each year.

253. The question of resources is critical and it is imperative that the secretariat be adequately staffed and resourced to carry out the management tasks associated with the Decade.

254. Efforts should be made by the whole United Nations system to ensure that it considers indigenous peoples in its programmes. The governing bodies of the major agencies should be encouraged to include indigenous issues on the agendas of their major meetings, with a view to adopting resolutions on indigenous concerns. It is expected that all agencies will consider appointing focal points for indigenous issues. Coordination within the United Nations system will be vital and it is suggested that inter-agency meetings be held regularly during the Decade.

255. Since the Working Group on Indigenous Populations met for the first time in 1982, indigenous peoples have become increasingly aware of the benefits of working at the international level, and their influence on the world stage is growing. As indigenous peoples continue to use opportunities to participate more widely at all levels of political activity, their circumstances will improve.

256. The United Nations has an important role to play in promoting an increased understanding of and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, but, in order to raise awareness of their concerns around the world, all sectors of society should be encouraged to make active contributions to the success of this Decade. Large non-governmental organizations, universities, foundations, the independent media and the private sector should be encouraged to contribute to projects for the Decade.

257. The proclamation of an International Decade of the World's Indigenous People was an important finale to the Year, as it indicated that the United Nations and Member States were aware that serious attention needs to be devoted to the question of the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples.